

**Love is**

Love is a journey,  
the ladies opening doors  
and letting love in,  
not objecting  
to being kissed.

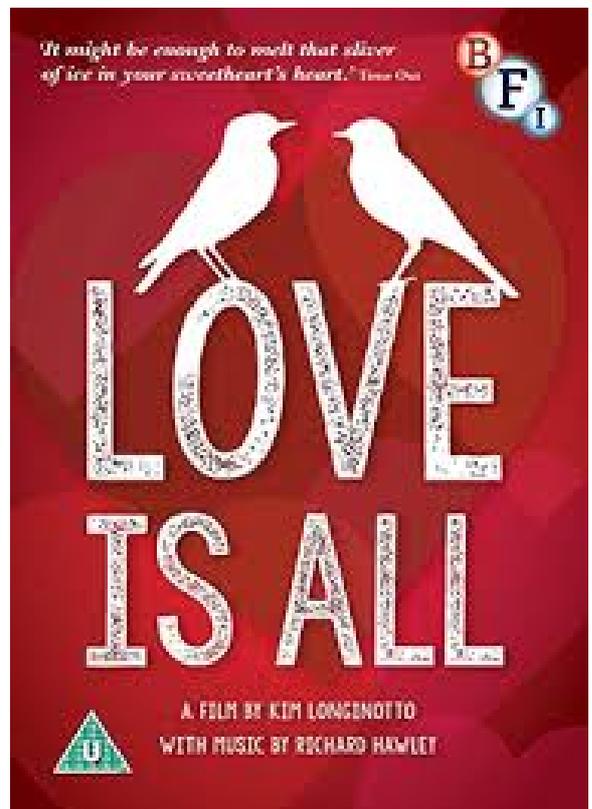
Couples skating  
on thin ice.

**Inside a Carriage**

The honeymoon scene in First Class  
with the little, illicit kiss –  
he just remembered  
to take out his cigar in time.  
Then back to reading a book.

You can be a drudge inside a marriage.

People live longer, to be married  
for fifty years used to be unusual.  
And when your children grow up  
you're just left looking at each other.



**Quite Unfit for Females**

Women's football – it was  
the F.A. put the kibosh  
on that.

So all their pent up energies  
were just left  
to brood and stew.

Did you see  
*Bend It Like Beckham*  
last night?

**Shag**

That clip of Betty in a shopful of cigarettes.  
Five Woodbines and half an ounce of Golden Virginia.  
That's what I was sent out for.  
Do you remember Spanish Shag?

A smoking man with Brylcreemed hair –  
an instant turn-on in the '40s.  
An instant turn-off now.

I think there's a tobacconist in Shrewsbury  
which still has tinned tobacco.



**Dance on the Pier**

Oh, I've done that, danced  
on the pier on a Sunday afternoon.  
A boy from Dudley promised  
to marry me.

Asking for a light, old chat-up line,  
then lighting my cigarette for me,  
two fags in his mouth  
at once.

**Teacup**

I loved the way she was putting  
his teacup down on his paper  
and he moved it  
and she put it back.  
She wanted his attention.

Have a cup of tea  
to take the heat out of it.

**Creative Conversations** | Mayfair Centre 14 February 2019 | Poems inspired by watching archive film, 'Love is All', provided by MediaActive, with the words of Joanna, Robin, Christine, Robin, Patsy and Janet. Edited by Jean Atkin [www.jeanatkin.com](http://www.jeanatkin.com)